

Nebraska eReads

Digital Books from Nebraska Libraries

Nebraska Library Commission State Aid Funding Request FY 2016 - 2017

Summary

eReading, in downloadable eBook and audio formats, continues to rise steadily. In 2008, Nebraska started a statewide OverDrive consortium with 25 libraries; it now includes 167 libraries. (Separate OverDrive library collections were required for public libraries serving populations of more than 50,000 people; therefore, Lincoln and Omaha/Ralston libraries have their own downloadable collections.) While the Nebraska eReads funding approved by the Nebraska Legislature in 2013 increased purchases by more than 70% in the first year, checkouts increased by 100%. That leaves libraries still struggling to meet demand while continuing to provide other necessary materials and services.

Funding Request

An additional **\$150,000** in FY 2016 and an additional **\$165,000** in FY 2017

In FY 2016

8,300 more eBooks and **2,800 more Audiobooks** could be purchased or licensed.

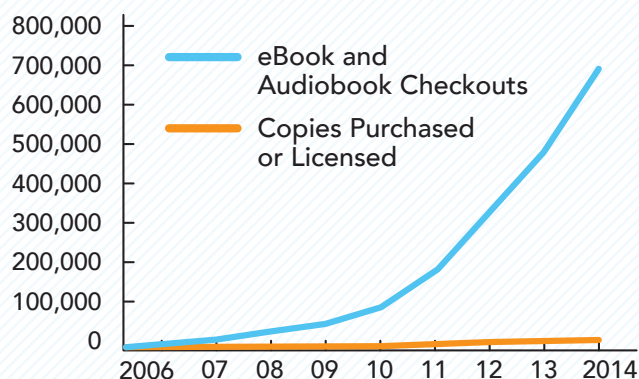
In FY 2017

9,000 more eBooks and **3,100 more Audiobooks** could be purchased or licensed.

Quick Facts

- **668,529** – eBook and Audiobook checkouts in 2014
- **204,502** – number of times users had to wait for desired titles in 2014
- **\$2.72** – average Return On Investment for every dollar invested
- **1.5 Million** – population served by participating Nebraska libraries
- **2 or more** libraries in every state legislative district participate in the consortium

Purchasing Power vs. User Demand



Testimonials

“This service is a life-saver. I listen to Audiobooks on my iPod every night before going to sleep; purchasing each one would be really expensive. I love Nebraska OverDrive.”

– Customer from the
Plattsmouth Public Library

“My dyslexic daughter listens to OverDrive Audiobooks all the time!”

– Customer from
the South Sioux City
Public Library

“LOVE IT!! I’ve been using it consistently since last winter on my Nook. Really easy to set up, and I can use it on my smartphone.”

– Customer from the
Wahoo Public Library

Q&A

Q: What is required to access eBook and Audiobook downloads?

- A:**
- A valid library card from a participating library
 - Internet access
 - A device on which to read eBooks or listen to Audiobooks

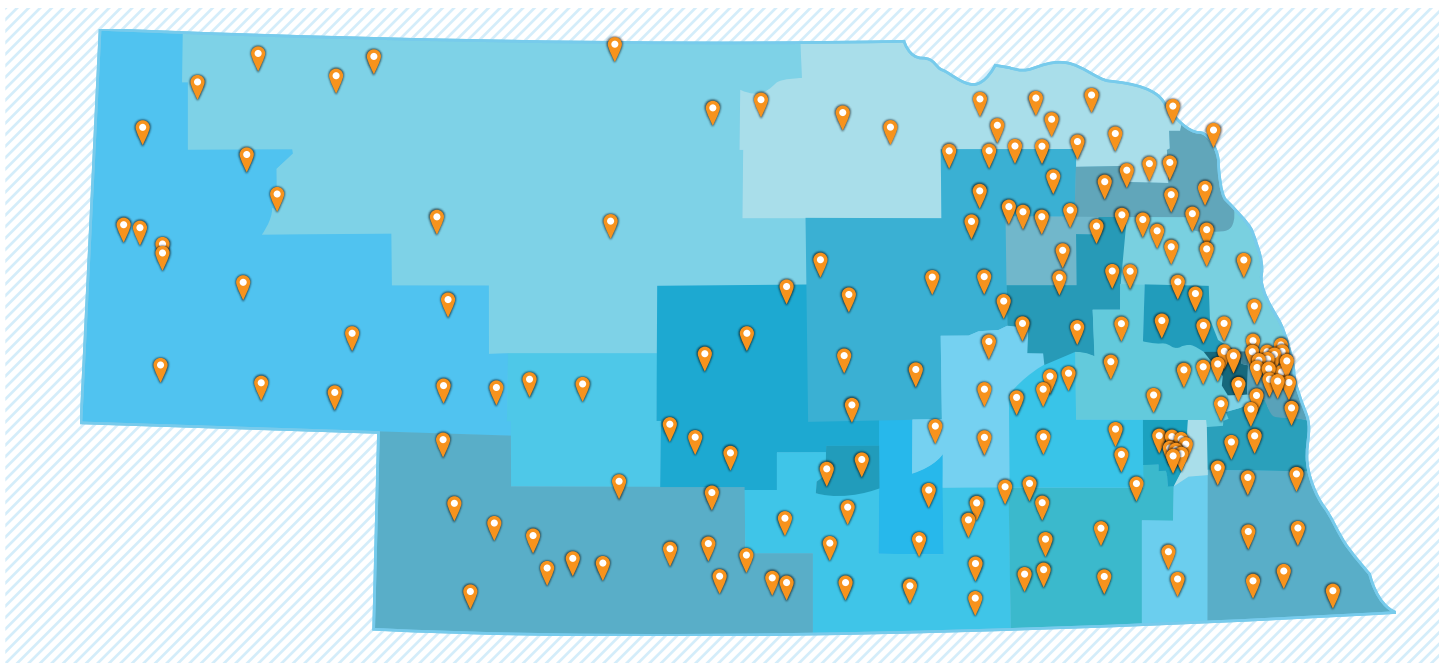
Q: Why can't more than one user download the same eBook or Audiobook at the same time?

- A:** Publishers treat downloadable material much the same as print material for this purpose.
If items are in higher demand, additional digital copies must be purchased as funds are available.

Q: Where do users log on to download eBooks and Audiobooks?

- A:**
- Nebraska OverDrive Libraries (consortium): <http://nebraska.lib.overdrive.com>
 - Lincoln: <http://lincoln.lib.overdrive.com>
 - Omaha/Ralston: <http://omaha.lib.overdrive.com> and <http://ebook.3m.com/library/OmahaPL>

OverDrive Participating Libraries in Nebraska by Legislative District



on the web at: [http://nlc.nebraska.gov/stats/overdriveandlegislative 2015.aspx](http://nlc.nebraska.gov/stats/overdriveandlegislative%202015.aspx)



Nebraska
Library Commission